

Appl. No. 10/662,018
Amdt Dated September 28, 2005
Reply to Office Action June 28, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by O'Sullivan et al. [US 6,557,626]. Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Sullivan et al. in view of Qiu [US 2002/0060900]. Claims 7, 12-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Sullivan et al. in view of Lee et al. [US 6,392,885]. Claims 8-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 8, 13, canceled claims 16-17, and added claims 18-20. Claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-15 are unchanged.

As to claim 1, applicant clearly points out that: *inner faces respectively are defined in inner sides of the flanges and cooperatively defines a circle having a diameter substantially the same as a diameter of the heat sink measured at the groove, one of the flanges has an inner protrusion extending from the inner face thereof and disposed between two of the fins.* This feature is taught in none of the references cited by Examiner; thus it has a great patentable weight. Therefore, claim 1 is submitted in patentability. Claims 2-12 are dependent from claim 1 and have all of the limitations included in claim 1, and should also be patentable. The added feature of claim 1 can find support from Figs. 1 and 2 of the present application; thus, no new matter issue is raised from the amendment of claim 1.

In claim 13, *the fan is secured to one side of the bracket; the locking*

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flanges and the locating flange between the locking flanges are formed at an opposite side of the bracket and are parallel to the bracket. The locking and locating flanges are received in the circumferential groove with inner sides of the locking and locating flanges abutting the inner periphery of the heat sink. The locating flange forms an inner protrusion received between adjacent two of the fins of the heat sink to prevent the heat sink from rotating.

The O'Sullivan reference did not teach any flange being oriented parallel to the bracket of the fan holder, having inner sides abutting the inner periphery of the heat sink and furthermore forming an inner protrusion thereon, wherein the inner protrusion is received between two adjacent fins of a heat sink to prevent the heat sink from rotating. Lee merely defines grooves 46 at two opposite outer sides of the heat sink (see FIGS. 1, 3 of Lee), to receive the locking flanges 186. Each block 22 of Lee is perpendicularly extended from the bracket of the fan holder 10 and is wholly received in an outmost space 44 defined by adjacent two fins 42 of the heat sink 40. The space 44 defined by the adjacent two fins 42 of Lee is quite different from the circumferential groove of claim 13 of the present invention. Opposite lateral sides of each block 22 abuts against adjacent two fins 42 of the heat sink 40 respectively. No inner protrusion is formed on the block 22 and received between adjacent two fins 42. Thus, the block 22 is totally different from the locating flange of claim 13 of the present invention. Therefore, neither of O'Sullivan nor Lee taught a locating flange which is received in a circumferential groove of the heat sink,

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abuts an inner periphery of the heat sink in the groove and further forms an inner protrusion thereon. Thus, whether individual or combination of O'Sullivan and Lee references did not teach the invention defined in claim 13.

Summarily, claim 13 should be patentable in comparison with the O'Sullivan and Lee references. Claims 14-15 are dependent claims of claim 13 and have all of the limitations included in claim 13, and should also be patentable.

Claim 18 defines a method of assembling a fan holder and a heat sink together. Claim 18 comprises steps of *(I) having the inner periphery defined in the heat sink at the circumferential groove, riding along the locking flanges toward the locating flange to resiliently deform the locking flanges away from each other; and (II) having the inner periphery snapped between the locking flanges and of having the locating flange received in the groove and abutting against the inner periphery of the heat sink.* These steps that the inner periphery defined in the heat sink at the circumferential groove, rides along the locking flanges toward the locating flange, then is snapped between the locking flanges and is abutted against by the locating flange, are particularly set forth in the method of claim 18.

In the O'Sullivan reference, the remaining fingers 58 are simultaneously latch the heat sink 10. In the Lee reference, the legs 16, 18, and the blocks 22 do not have any engagement with the grooves 46 before all of the hooks 166, 186 of the legs 16, 18 snappingly engage in the grooves

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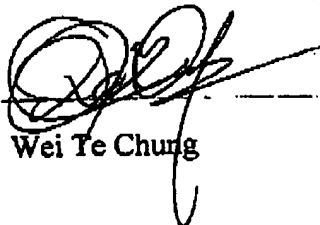
46. In other words, the legs, 16, 18 and the blocks 22 of Lee reference do not engage with the grooves 46 in a sequential manner, while in claim 18 of the present application, the locking flanges 362 first engage in the groove 122 of the heat sink 100 and then the locating flange 352.

Clearly, individual or combination of the O'Sullivan and Lee references did not teach the particular steps of claim 18. Claims 18 and its dependent claims 19-20 are submitted in patentability.

In view of the foregoing, the subject application as claimed in the pending claims is in a condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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